

**Beaufort Sea Oil and Gas Lease
Sale 144**

Public Hearings

Kaktovik

1995

1 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
2 MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE
3 949 East 36th Avenue
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6

7 OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT

8 PUBLIC HEARING

9 BEAUFORT SEA SALE 144 DRAFT EIS
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13 City Hall
14 Kaktovik, Alaska

15 Tuesday, November 7, 1995
16 6:00 o'clock p.m.
17

18 MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE PANEL MEMBERS

19 Mr. Bob Brock, Regional Supervisor for Leasing and Environment
20 Mr. Rance Wall, Regional Supervisor for Resource Evaluation
21 Mr. Jeff Walker, Special Assistant to the Regional Director
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23
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KAKTOVIK, ALASKA - TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1995

(On record at 6:00 p.m.)

MR. BROCK: We'll go on the record. My name is Bob Brock. I'm the Regional Supervisor for Leasing and Environment in the Outer Continental Shelf Office in Anchorage, Alaska. And with me at the panel, if you haven't met them, is Rance Wall, on my left. He's the Regional Supervisor for Resource Evaluation that does -- the one that does the estimating on the oil and gas reserves. And Jeff Walker, who is the Special Assistant to the Regional Director.

This is our third public hearing. We held one last night in Nuiqsut, and last month we had one in Anchorage, and we'll have -- we have one more on this sale in Barrow tomorrow night. The purpose of this hearing is to receive your comments and your views on this Environmental Impact Statement. Our goal is to try to improve this Environmental Impact Statement to make sure we have an accurate document.

Two things I'd like to point out; I'm not going to go through all of the information that I necessarily have, but two things I'd like to point out, and that's that there is a Kaktovik deferral in the Environmental Impact Statement analyzed. I want to make sure you understand that no decision has been made to withdraw that area at this point in time. It's being analyzed as a potential deferral.

1 There was some feeling in Kak- -- in Nuiqsut last
2 night, I got the feeling, that some people thought that that
3 had already been withdrawn from the sale area. That -- just so
4 you understand, that is not true. It's being analyzed as a
5 potential deferral area, but it has not been withdrawn at this
6 point in time. It's still in the sale area. That's one thing
7 I wanted to make real sure that you understand.

8 And then I will be glad to -- after we take the
9 testimony, I'll be glad to answer any questions, go off the
10 record and answer any questions that you may have on this. We
11 are trying our best to incorporate as much indigenous knowledge
12 as we can in this document, and so anything that you have on
13 that realm, we would definitely like to hear about.

14 I'd like to be sure that you know Richard Carl, who
15 is our Court Reporter. And if you want a copy of this document
16 of the verbatim transcript, you can get one through him at
17 Executary Court Reporting Services.

18 And we also have a translator available. And I'm
19 terrible on names, and I apologize.

20 THE TRANSLATOR: Frances Mongoyak from Barrow.

21 MR. BROCK: Okay. And she -- so she -- if we need a
22 translator, she will be available to do that.

23 The comment period on this document closes November
24 20th, 1995. And that's when -- now, if you don't get your
25 comments in, if you can give me a call, we'll try to

1 accommodate them, and usually, if it's there a little bit late,
2 we don't have a problem in accommodating them. But the comment
3 period basically closes November 20th. If -- and those
4 comments should be sent: Minerals Management Service, 949 East
5 36th Avenue, Room 308, Anchorage 99508.

6 With that, since -- George, since you have to leave,
7 I'm not going to go through anything else. I'd be glad for you
8 to go ahead.

9 MR. TAGAROOK: All right.. Thank you.

10 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MR. GEORGE TAGAROOK

11 For the record, I'm George Tagarook. City Council
12 members, citizens.....

13 MR. BROCK: How do you spell your last name?

14 MR. TAGAROOK: T-a-g-a-r-o-o-k.

15 BY MR. TAGAROOK (Resuming):

16 And I plan to live here forever. I'm going to
17 comment on that I oppose any offshore drilling, and the
18 deferral area is such a small area; it needs to be enlarged,
19 maybe 100 miles north and 100 miles on each side. I mean, we
20 use the ocean for our subsistence: whaling, we do fishing, we
21 do bird hunting, duck hunting, and we also have summer camps
22 along the coast.

23 I'm not in favor of the plan you guys have here. I
24 think if you guys consider that the ice conditions, inadequate
25 oil spill response, and, you know, it scares me. What if

1 there's a blow-out? What's going to happen. Is our renewable
2 resources going to be depleted? Or I don't want to see another
3 Prince William Sound.

4 But I do have some questions I want to ask, if some
5 of you, or any of you, could answer the questions. We've
6 provided you, as well as some of the administration in
7 Washington, D.C., John Garamandy (ph), Special Assistant to the
8 Secretary for Alas- -- Deputy Secretary, John Garamandy, and
9 Special Assistant to the Secretary for Alaska, Deborah
10 Williams, our guidelines on how to work in this country of
11 ours. I don't know, the last time there was a couple of people
12 here. Have you reviewed our Kaktovik papers in this place?

13 MR. BROCK: Have we what?

14 MR. TAGAROOK: Have you reviewed our Kaktovik papers?
15 There was a pamphlet that we gave to the gentlemen last meeting
16 we had.

17 MR. BROCK: Are you talking about the meeting on
18 the -- the workshop on the EIS?

19 MR. TAGAROOK: Yes.

20 MR. BROCK: I was trying to remember. I read a bunch
21 of that, but I don't remember.....

22 MR. TAGAROOK: I would like a response on that.

23 MR. BROCK: Okay. We'll.....

24 MR. TAGAROOK: For the record.

25 MR. BROCK:go through that and get you a

1 response.

2 MR. TAGAROOK: Okay.

3 MR. BROCK: I didn't bring one with me.

4 MR. TAGAROOK: What actions do you intend to take
5 with respect to our offer to participate fully in all
6 development within these waters or through the impact papers
7 that we presented you?

8 MR. BROCK: Well, that's one reason we're here
9 tonight, is to get your input here. And, of course, we try to
10 keep you involved all the way through.

11 MR. TAGAROOK: Okay. I noted a striking
12 inconsistency between Interior's position on OCS development
13 and ANWR development. Why has Secretary Babbitt charged that
14 ANWR development will disseminate the porcupine caribou herd
15 while on the shore -- while the on-shore facilities for this
16 OCS development would seem to have so little lasting impact if
17 there's going to be oil exploration on the federal OCS? Are
18 they going to have like facilities on the coast, like pipeline,
19 roads, or if there is a major oil discovery on the ocean?

20 MR. BROCK: If -- well, of course, it depends on
21 where it was discovered, but it would -- wherever it's
22 discovered, it would be brought to shore, and our scenario has
23 it going to the pipeline. As far as why there's an
24 inconsistency, if there is one, we operate under different
25 laws. So that -- I'm not going to -- we operate under the --

1 we're hired and operate under the OCS Lands Act, which is an
2 offshore, and we have nothing at all to do with any development
3 or anything dealing with ANWR at all.

4 MR. TAGAROOK: Well.....

5 MR. BROCK: And I -- all I can say is that Congress
6 has passed one law, and they haven't passed the other law. And
7 that's just the -- you know, that's before Congress right now,
8 is whether or not they're going to have development on there.

9 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah.

10 MR. BROCK: And that's a congressional law.

11 MR. TAGAROOK: But Congress has already approved a
12 lease sale on the OCS?

13 MR. BROCK: Yes, this is under the OCS Lands Act of
14 1953 and as amended in '78.

15 MR. WALKER: They haven't approved the lease sale.

16 MR. BROCK: I'm sorry. They haven't approved the
17 lease sale; they've approved the program, which means that they
18 approved the five-year program. And this is one of the five-
19 year -- one of the sales on the five-year program, and Congress
20 did not object. They did approve it through their law, yes,
21 sir.

22 MAYOR SONSALLA: See, the inconsistency that George
23 is talking about is that, you know, if development happens in
24 the waters, you will have land-based support. And it seems to
25 be okay under the OCS, but under any ANWR legislation, it's off

1 limits. To us that doesn't even make sense that we could use
2 the land in one part and not in the other part.

3 MR. BROCK: Well.....

4 MAYOR SONSALLA: And I don't know how you could
5 justify using.....

6 MR. BROCK: Could we go off the record to talk about
7 this? I'd rather be off the record.....

8 MR. TAGAROOK: No, I don't mind.....

9 MR. BROCK:talking about this, merely because I
10 can't.....

11 MR. TAGAROOK:being on record.

12 MR. BROCK: No, but I can't say anything about ANWR
13 on the record. I'm.....

14 MR. TAGAROOK: Okay.

15 MR. BROCK: I have nothing to do with ANWR, so I
16 can't say anything about it on the record. So.....

17 COURT REPORTER: Off record.

18 (Off record)

19 (On record)

20 COURT REPORTER: On record.

21 MR. TAGAROOK: Why is there so little discussion on
22 the special perils of working in a zone of unpredictable --
23 unpredictability and high-pressure sea ice currently that runs
24 east and west?

25 MR. BROCK: I missed.....

1 MR. TAGAROOK: And if you do put a drill out there,
2 what's the safeguard for protecting the rig from floating ice,
3 icebergs?

4 MR. BROCK: What's protecting the rig?

5 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah. Mm hmm (affirmative).

6 MR. BROCK: Well, I just -- we have had four sales
7 out in this particular -- in this area, and they've drilled 28
8 holes, and they're -- each one of those -- I think they've
9 drilled at least some of those in the wintertime. And they
10 build a -- what do you call it, Jeff, around the.....

11 MR. WALKER: A berm.

12 MR. BROCK:a berm around the -- an ice berm
13 around it. And as near as I know, they didn't -- they've had
14 no -- absolutely no problems with that.

15 MR. TAGAROOK: There's so much offshore activity in
16 Canada and -- where was I? -- why isn't there any mention of
17 problems encountered in Canada with this kind of drilling in
18 far more benign waters?

19 MR. BROCK: We use the information we get from Canada
20 in the document.

21 MR. TAGAROOK: But.....

22 MR. WALL: If you have any.....

23 MR. BROCK: Yeah, but if you have some additional,
24 we'll be glad to -- that's.....

25 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah. Yeah. They got -- what? --

1 about 60 holes in.....

2 MR. BROCK: Right.

3 MR. TAGAROOK:Porcupine -- or not the
4 Porcupine, but the whale calving area. Don't they have an EIS
5 in Canada, or don't they -- or they just go in and drill as
6 they wish, where they wish, or.....

7 MR. BROCK: I don't know what laws govern that. I
8 don't know. They -- NEPA, National Environmental Policy Act,
9 is a U.S. law, and I don't know if Canada has a similar law or
10 not. I couldn't tell you.

11 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah. But the eastern OCS from here
12 to the border, that's our main whale -- bowhead whale migration
13 area. Not only that, western Canadian waters is bowhead whale
14 calving area; that's where they go calf. And I'm concerned if
15 there's a spill, where the bowhead whales are going to go. Are
16 they going to go to Russia or.....

17 (Pause)

18 MR. TAGAROOK: (Laugh) No answer.

19 MR. BROCK: I mean, I don't know what you -- I don't
20 have an answer for that. That's -- I mean, they'll -- the
21 migration has not been altered due to our -- on our whale
22 surveys that we do every year. At this point in time, the
23 migration is basically the same place it's been the last 17
24 years, varying just a little bit, but it varies a little bit
25 each year.

1 MR. TAGAROOK: I'm particularly concerned on what the
2 logistics you have in your book. Why is there so little
3 discussion on this most critical aspect of work? What will be
4 supplied? What will be the supply route and the timing? Will
5 it be Canadian-based, and if so, how will it be monitored?
6 Will it be so sloppy, or be as sloppy as the Canadian work or
7 not -- then who will see to it that it is not, and how will
8 they do it? The sloppy work that I know the Canadians do, no
9 regulations, no EIS study.

10 MR. BROCK: Minerals Management Service basically has
11 a person on the rig when the exploration time, almost
12 continuously, and to monitor exactly what's happening on the
13 exploration program.

14 MR. TAGAROOK: Then can we have at least one local
15 from the community be a.....

16 MR. BROCK: It's a possibility.

17 MR. TAGAROOK:monitor, too?

18 MR. BROCK: If -- I'll just -- I'll record that as a
19 suggestion, yes.

20 BY MR. TAGAROOK (Resuming):

21 I would suggest that the deferral area be extended
22 100 miles east, 100 miles west, 100 miles north. The whole
23 Kaktovik waters of the Beaufort Sea be deferred from oil
24 exploration, offshore oil exploration, due to our renewable
25 resources going through: whales, fish, birds. So I totally

1 oppose the offshore drilling.

2 If Congress can approve offshore drilling, why can't
3 they approve on-land drilling? I know it's a different
4 subject, but I don't see why they could do one and not the
5 other. It's more safe, and you can -- it's stable on land
6 versus ice, currents, the currents and the ice floes. It's
7 scary. I mean, I want my kids and my grandkids to hunt whales,
8 hunt seals.

9 (Pause)

10 I think -- I have a class to go to, but that's my
11 comments. I hope you guys don't approve, but just that the
12 deferral area be extended 100 miles east, 100 miles west, and
13 100 miles north.

14 MR. BROCK: We'll certainly put it in. Thank you
15 very much.

16 MR. TAGAROOK: Thank you.

17 MR. BROCK: Let's go off the record for a minute.

18 COURT REPORTER: Off record.

19 (Off record)

20 (On record)

21 COURT REPORTER: On record.

22 MR. BROCK: And would you state your name and.....

23 MR. AKOOTCHOOK: I just going to have few questions
24 about what's -- about, you know. And we already heard on
25 offshore lease sale.

1 MR. BROCK: Okay. What's your name, sir?

2 MR. AKOOTCHOOK: My name is -- he's ready.

3 COURT REPORTER: Go ahead.

4 MR. AKOOTCHOOK: They are ready? My name is Isaac
5 Akootchook, and Kaktovik resident.

6 MR. BROCK: Could you spell that name?

7 MR. AKOOTCHOOK: My home.

8 MR. BROCK: Could you spell your last name, please?

9 MR. AKOOTCHOOK: A-k-o-o-t-c-h-o-o-k.

10 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MR. ISAAC AKOOTCHOOK

11 I live -- I born up here and live here until today.
12 And lease sale (in Inupiat).

13 MR. AKOOTCHOOK: I going to speak my language.

14 THE TRANSLATOR: He's going to.....

15 MR. AKOOTCHOOK: Okay?

16 THE TRANSLATOR: And I'll translate it.

17 MR. BROCK: That's right. That's fine.

18 MR. AKOOTCHOOK: And translate -- and they
19 supposed -- maybe my daughter help me on that, too. You know.

20 BY MR. AKOOTCHOOK, THROUGH THE TRANSLATOR (Resuming):

21 We have heard stories like that, that on the Beaufort
22 lease sale that they were going to, you know, keep the sale --
23 the lease sales. They've heard about these issues before.
24 This is issue of some -- what is different than on-shore
25 because it's off -- you know, right in the Arctic Oceans. And

1 it will effect a great impact on the living animals and mammals
2 that are living, and it pertains to our general subsistence way
3 of living, our lifestyle.

4 Animals like fishes, you know, all kinds of mammals,
5 fish, ducks. And other areas, other countries have heard about
6 that, and they do realize that there's a big impact on the
7 lifestyles also. His main concern is if they do have the
8 Beaufort offshore lease, you know, the drilling out there in
9 our ocean, who's going to take care of the oil spills down
10 there, and who will take care of the animals that -- if it has
11 a big impact on the animals being lost because of the drilling?

12 He also says that it also plays an impact on the ice,
13 the movements of the ice down in the ocean because on the land,
14 when they have oil spills, you can see the oil spills, but not
15 if there's an oil spill down in the ocean. The -- you can't
16 see the oil spill; it'll be under the ice. They, most of the
17 time, don't realize and find out at the last minute.

18 Like right now, with people like you guys from the
19 Minerals Management come here for a meeting on big issues like
20 this, that play a big impact on our environment, like our
21 subsistence and things that we already know like -- you know,
22 like the ice movements that the Inupiat people already know.
23 They have to share it with you people, to educate you, and they
24 have to educate each other on these issues.

25 And that's one of his concerns, too, is they don't

1 know when people like the oil companies, people come in for
2 special meetings like that. And he'd like to emphasize that in
3 the near future that people like, you know, you guys keep them
4 notified all the time.

5 MR. AKOOTCHOOK: Thank you.

6 THE TRANSLATOR: He stated on that one issue, like
7 I've heard oil spills, you know, throughout, on the land.
8 Nobody has mentioned anything about the oil spills under the
9 ice.

10 MR. BROCK: Under the ice.

11 MR. AKOOTCHOOK: How are they going to clean it up?

12 THE TRANSLATOR: Yeah. How?

13 MR. AKOOTCHOOK: Because that's a lot different.

14 THE TRANSLATOR: You know. And.....

15 MR. AKOOTCHOOK: Because we're fishing in every
16 summer out around.

17 THE TRANSLATOR: He said the ice movements have been
18 really changing, too, during the last few years.

19 MR. BROCK: Thank you.

20 THE TRANSLATOR: Yeah.

21 (Pause)

22 MS. AKOOTCHOOK: Hi.

23 MR. BROCK: Hi.

24 MS. AKOOTCHOOK: Is it on?

25 COURT REPORTER: It's on. Go ahead.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MS. SUSIE AKOOTCHOOK

My name is Susie Akootchook. I was born and raised here in Kaktovik.

MR. BROCK: Can you spell your last name?

MS. AKOOTCHOOK: A-k-o-o-t-c-h-.....

MR. BROCK: Okay.

MS. AKOOTCHOOK:o-o-k.

BY MS. AKOOTCHOOK (Resuming):

I've been well known to oppose the offshore drilling, offshore lease sales. I've voiced my opinions on that year after year after year, and I will oppose any lease sales in the Beaufort Sea. We have whaling; we have a whaling season, which is very, very important, and also during the summer, we go out and get seals and ooruks. We fish, we hunt ducks. There's a lot of activity out there in the ocean during the summer season, through the winter, through the fall season.

I oppose that lease sale. There's three alternatives; right? Was it three or four alternatives that you had?

MR. BROCK: Four, I think.

BY MS. AKOOTCHOOK (Resuming):

And where that Alternative 3, was it? That's -- that totally closes that Beaufort Sea sale?

(Pause - Side comments)

MS. AKOOTCHOOK: No. 3?

1 MR. BROCK: I think -- that's what I was going to
2 say. I think 3's the Barter Island deferral. I had that
3 marked yesterday.

4 (Pause)

5 MS. AKOOTCHOOK: Yeah.

6 (Pause - Whispered consultation)

7 BY MS. AKOOTCHOOK (Resuming):

8 Our hunters work very hard to provide food for our
9 people, for the families that live here in Kaktovik. They
10 utilize that ocean out there a lot; we live off of it. That's
11 our land out there; that's our market. Inupiat would (in
12 Inupiat). They put in a lot of hours down there in the ocean
13 looking to provide food for our families. And I respect the
14 hard work that they do. It's hard work.

15 And also, the women, when they bring in the o^aruks or
16 the seals or the fish, they work on them. And that's a lot of
17 work also for the women to preserve the food. As we all know,
18 that ANWR is -- everybody's waiting to hear what's going to
19 happen. We all -- especially around here. I'm sure the whole
20 state of Alaska is waiting to see what's going to happen with
21 ANWR once Congress gets done with it, and it'll go through its
22 proper course.

23 I would prefer to see on-shore drilling than
24 offshore. The oil companies, as far as I'm concerned, have not
25 satisfied me that the oil spill on offshore is a guaranteed

1 clean-up, that it will be a perfect clean-up. They have not
2 satisfied me; they have not shown me. I have not seen with my
3 own eyes that the cleaning of an offshore oil spill will be
4 cleaned 100 percent.

5 When there's -- like Isaac says, there's a lot of ice
6 movement. The temperature of the ocean has changed quite a
7 bit. I was going to say "drastically," but I won't use that.
8 But temperature of the ocean has changed. I oppose offshore
9 lease sales, period, and I've told you why, and I will continue
10 to oppose offshore lease sales in our area.

11 We have feeding area for the bowhead whale in our
12 area. We see them. Just last September we seen them just
13 playing around out here. And I sure don't want to see no oil
14 spills to damage what we have out there. We live off of the
15 ocean, just as well as we live off the land. And I oppose it,
16 and I got my reasons. And that's it.

17 MR. BROCK: Thank you very much.

18 MS. AKOOTCHOOK: Thank you.

19 (Pause)

20 MR. BROCK: Anybody else?

21 (No audible response)

22 MR. BROCK: Well, if not, we would.....

23 MAYOR SONSALLA: I have a few comments.

24 MR. BROCK: Oh, okay. Yes, go ahead. I'm sorry.

25 (Pause)

PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MAYOR LON SONSALLA

My name is Lon Sonsalla. I'm the present Mayor of Kaktovik. My concerns is -- are that if there is some kind of drilling, which I don't think is a good idea, but if there is, we do need somebody that has knowledge of sea ice movement and somebody to be out there monitoring operations all the time that is from here. That could -- that would be of great assistance to anything that happened out there.

I'm kind of wondering what the benefits to Kaktovik would be if there was drilling out there. I have no idea. That's one of my -- also one of my concerns. In our papers that we have come up with, that pamphlet that George was talking about in this place, we mention that we need an impact office, not just for any offshore that might happen, but also for ANWR. It would be what we visualize it as an impact office here locally that could deal with any problems that might come up, that we would be able to be directly involved with the -- any process that is going on. And also, there would have to be a local person, or a persons probably.

Personally, I'm very worried about the dangerous effects of the sea ice movement also, as are -- as just about everybody else is here, and the almost impossible task of trying to clean up an oil spill. I know in your document -- and it's a pretty formidable document -- but I've only gotten through part of it. But the worst case, I think, was like

1 three major oil spills.

2 And I don't know how you would even begin to start
3 cleaning up something that's under the ice and on the ice, you
4 know, and just would be totally -- to me, it would be scattered
5 all over the place. I don't know how you'd go about it. I
6 mean, even in Prince William Sound, which is ice-free, it was
7 just a disaster down there.

8 So also, I'm worried about the danger to the sea
9 life. The -- it is not just the whales, the fish, the seals,
10 the bearded seals, the ducks, and even the polar bears would be
11 affected by this, I'm sure. And so -- and all of those are a
12 valuable resource to the people here. We'd -- I think it would
13 be too major of a dramatic effect to have any kind of drilling
14 here.

15 I did -- it's probab- -- I don't know if it would
16 benefit the village here locally, but I kind of doubt it would.

17 My last comment is, we really don't have the
18 technical resources to properly respond to a document of this
19 size. I mean, we've been kind of overwhelmed lately, with half
20 the Council's been down -- City Council's been down in
21 Washington, D.C., doing the ANWR jig down there. And the rest
22 of us have been trying to keep things going up here. And we
23 really don't have the money or the people that we do need to
24 analyze something of this size. And possibly that could be
25 part of the -- you know, the impact off this that we visualize.

1 It's not something that's here yet, but something maybe in the
2 future, we hope that we could be part of that.

3 That's all I have for now.

4 COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

5 MR. BROCK: Thank you.

6 (Pause)

7 MR. BROCK: Anybody else?

8 (No audible response)

9 MR. BROCK: Okay.

10 MS. MONGOYAK: I do. Even though I'm a translator,
11 maybe it'll be a good idea if you can tell these people who
12 have come here to this real special meeting about if there are
13 going to be any more meetings, to let them be informed.

14 MR. BROCK: Okay. Yeah. Right now, this is the last
15 meeting we plan unless you request a meeting for so- -- on
16 something. We'll go to Barrow and this, but this is the last
17 meeting that we -- public meeting that -- or public hearing
18 that we had planned to do. And then we'd be more than glad to
19 come back up if you have some questions on specifics. We'll
20 send people up to help answer those questions.

21 MAYOR SONSALLA: What is the process from here?
22 You're taking public comments right now, but.....

23 MR. BROCK: Public comments right now. The pro- --
24 we'll get all the public comments, we get all the testimony; we
25 go through all of the testimony. We try to answer each and

1 every one of those, and assuming -- and the decision has not
2 even been made to do the final ES -- EIS. But if the decision
3 is to proceed with the final EIS, that'll be the next decision
4 that has to be made.

5 And assuming that that is the decision, then we'll
6 write the final EIS, and it will respond to all of the
7 comments, either individually, or if they're all -- if there's
8 a lot of similar comments, we'll group them and respond.
9 That's the first major decision. Then after the final EIS,
10 which is about -- will come out about a year from now, you
11 know, after the final EIS is published, then there will be
12 another decision point of whether we're going to go ahead with
13 the Notice of Sale.

14 At -- usually, at the same time that the final EIS
15 comes out, a consistency determination comes out and goes to
16 the State to see if we're consistent with the Coastal Zone
17 Management Act. If -- and then as soon as that is completed,
18 then we -- then the Secretary himself makes the decision
19 whether we'll proceed with the sale.

20 MAYOR SONSALLA: So the Secretary of the
21 Interior.....

22 MR. BROCK: Makes that decision.

23 MAYOR SONSALLA:makes the decision whether
24 there would be a complete sale, no sale, or.....

25 MR. BROCK: That's.....

1 MAYOR SONSALLA:the Barter Island deferral?

2 MR. BROCK: That's correct.

3 MAYOR SONSALLA: So it's Mr. Babbitt once again.

4 MR. BROCK: Right. And that would -- if it stays on
5 the present schedule, that could be as early as -- and I don't
6 have the schedule with me. I think it's sometime in late
7 summer or early fall of next year. I believe it's September,
8 if I remember right.

9 MAYOR SONSALLA: All right.

10 MR. WALKER: So while we don't have another public
11 visit hearing in our process, the coastal CD, consistency
12 determination, the State comes back to the North Slope Borough,
13 through the CD process, and asks for, you know, input for the
14 State's process on the coastal -- on the consistency
15 determination that we have to get for a sale process. So
16 there's still opportunity through that process yet as well,
17 through the State process, on this sale activity.

18 MR. BROCK: That's correct.

19 (Pause)

20 MR. WALKER: Okay.

21 MR. BROCK: So let's close the public hearing now,
22 and we'll reopen it if somebody else comes in. But if nobody
23 else comes in, we'll close it.

24 COURT REPORTER: Off record.

25 / / /

1 (Whereupon, the proceedings in the above-entitled
2 matter were adjourned at 7:30 p.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

STATE OF ALASKA)
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT) ss.
_____)

I, CINDY S. CARL, do hereby certify:

(1) That the foregoing pages contain a full, true, and correct transcript of proceedings in the above-entitled matter, transcribed by me, or at my direction and supervision, to the best of my knowledge and ability.

(2) That I have been certified for transcript services by the United States Courts.

(3) That I was certified for transcript services by the Alaska Court System prior to January 1, 1993.

SIGNED AND CERTIFIED:

BY: Cindy S. Carl
Cindy S. Carl
Certified Court Reporter

DATE: 12/7/95

